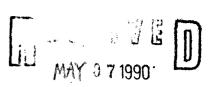
#### 851

### United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

#### National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

, ,,,,			
1. Name of Property			
historic name U.S. Naval S	Station Tutuila Histor	ric District	
	d Utulei villages; Pag		
		,	
2. Location On water fronts of street & number Pago Harbor	Fagatogo and Utulei,	on the south a	nd west sides of Page   not for publication
city, town Fagatogo and Utulei			vicinity
state American Samoa code AS	county Eastern	code 010	zip code 96799
State Milet Teatt Sallida Soci AS	county Fasterii	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3. Classification			
	gory of Property	Number of Resou	rces within Property
	uilding(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
Incompanied   Improved the Impr	strict	12	buildings
X public-State si		1	sites
	ructure		structures
	pject	Military May and a second second	objects
0	л <del>ь</del> ст	13	0 Total
Name of related multiple property listing:			outing resources previously
realite of related multiple property listing:			
		iisted in the Natio	nal Register <u>4</u>
4. State/Federal Agency Certification			
National Register of Historic Places and model in my opinion, the property meets of the signature of certifying official state or Federal agency and bureau	oes not meet the National Reg 5 H P Q Criation, Amb	ister criteria. See c	ontinuation sheet.  OCI/26/90  Date GUY.
In my opinion, the propertymeetsd	oes not meet the National Reg	ister criteria. L_l See c	
Signature of commenting or other official			Date
State or Federal agency and bureau			
5. National Park Service Certification			
I, hereby, certify that this property is:		2 /2	
entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.  determined not eligible for the National Register.	Carolas	Kull	6-20-90
removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)	Signature of the	no Kooper	Date of Action
	Signature of the	וס ו/פסטסו	Date of Action

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
Government/police station and courthouse
Commerce and Trade/bank and offices
Domestic/institutional housing, multiple
dwelling
Recreation and Culture/museum, plaza, yach
club
Materials (enter categories from instructions)
foundation concrete piers
walls concrete
wood, weatherboard
roof iron, shingle
other
-

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, located on Tutuila Island, American Samoa, in 1900, originally consisted of a narrow band of level land between the bay and the rugged mountains at Fagatogo Village. By placing fill on the coral reef and through additional land acquisitions, the station grew to 81.25 acres by 1949 and had extended southward to include the waterfront of Utulei Village. The generally level area is pleasantly situated so as to enjoy the trade winds entering Pago Pago Harbor. Today's main highway along the south shore of Tutuila runs through the former station and, indeed, the Navy constructed this portion early in the twentieth century.

The first structures pertained to a coaling dock and shed which contractors began building even before the naval station was established. Nothing remains of this enterprise. Of the approximately 105 structures on the station at the end of the Navy's administration, 1951, sixteen remain as does The first buildings erected on shore were frame and of the parade ground. The commandant, his officers, and the ship's crew lived slight construction. on board the station ship, which was uncomfortable in the tropical climate. Of the earliest permanent structures, three substantial ones have survived, all the commandant's residence (Government House), administrative building, and a duplex officers' quarters. Nonetheless, the tropical climate, termites, and hurricanes caused the Navy to turn to concrete as a construction material by World War I. Both reinforced, poured concrete and concrete block were employed. (Residences, on the whole, remained frame with many window openings for ventilation.) In the beginning roofs consisted of corrugated iron. Today there is a mixture of corrugated iron and cedar shake shingles on roofs. All exteriors of the buildings were painted white, and still are. In 1930 the color of trim changed from red to green. Today white dominates all exteriors with no contrasting trim.

There are no chimneys in the structures. The commandant in 1914 wrote proudly that many trees and shrubs such as mango, papaya, kapok, candlenut, avocado, coconut, breadfruit, and other native trees, to the total of 1,541, had been planted throughout the station. Nearly all the structures have been heavily altered in their interiors as their various functions changed over the years. This registration form considers the exteriors of the surviving buildings and their historic setting.

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Government House, Navy No. 1. The commandant wrote in 1902 that if he were to be appointed governor of American Samoa, he should be given the proper establishment, with servants, etc., that usually went with such a position. The Navy approved plans for an elaborate (for that place and time) residence. Work began on government house, or the commandant's residence, that fall. The next spring two skilled carpenters arrived from the United States, and with the help of Samoan workers, completed the house in July 1903. While all other buildings stood on low-lying ground near water level, this large, airy house stood high above the rest on Observatory Point which had been graded from eighty-five feet to sixty feet in elevation. It is a two-story, frame structure with an attic having two dormers. It stands on concrete piers and is cruciform in shape.

The building originally had two-story verandas along both sides and parts of the front and rear. Portions of these verandas have been removed; other portions have been enclosed. Louvered windows encircle both floors. Corrugated iron covers the roof. The overall dimensions of the building are approximately 124 feet by 76 feet, resulting in 10,400 square feet of floor space, with eaves 24 feet above the ground.

Thick tropical vegetation surrounds the building making photographs of it difficult to take. Open space is limited to the rear where there stands a storage shed and a six-car carport. At the rear of a small stretch of grass that is lined with flower pots stands a  $\underline{\text{fale}}$   $\underline{\text{tele}}$ , or traditional Samoan guest house, used for ceremonial affairs. The roof of this oval building is shingled rather than thatched. A fishpond that once graced the grassy area is no longer extant. Visitors reach the residence by driving up a narrow, curving driveway that is guarded by the jungle. A long flight of concrete steps leads from the front entrance to the road below. At one time a bandstand stood near the bottom of these stairs, which are now closed off.

The records disclose that maintenance was a continuing affair on the residence. A 1930 report noted that the workmen had carried out extensive repairs to the woodwork, painted the house throughout, and constructed a new bathroom. They installed a shower bath two years later and repaired sills, floor joists, and flooring. Other years saw rotted posts and stringers replaced. In 1936 a hurricane wrecked the guest <u>fale tele</u>. The salvaging and rebuilding cost \$325. Constant repairs and replacements have kept the imposing structure in good condition and it continues to house the civilian governor, his family, and distinguished guests.

<u>Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy No. 20</u>. The date of construction of this double set of quarters is unknown, but its low number and its location next to

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the Navy's administration building indicate it was built soon after 1900, possibly around 1904-1905. In his report for 1923, the commandant wrote this structure had been condemned and that new officers' quarters were needed. It is not known if the original structure was taken down nor if today's building was its replacement.

It is a two-story, frame building facing the bay and the main road that runs through the station, which road is now named the William McKinley Memorial Highway. The structure stands on concrete piers. Corrugated iron The two separate entrances on the front of the building covers the roof. remain but their doors have been modernized. Also, the second-floor front windows appear to be modern. A 1934 map shows verandas across the front of the building that extended a short distance to the rear on either side. verandas exist today but corrugated iron overhangs protect portions of the ground floor windows and doors. An exterior staircase on the west side leads to the second floor; it appears to be a later addition. In the rear, the second floor overhangs the ground floor by about four feet. The approximate dimensions of the building are sixty feet square. In 1934 this duplex housed warrant officers and their families; in 1949 officers and their families lived here. Today, 1988, the Department of Legal Affairs has its offices in the building. It is in relatively good condition.

Administration Building, Navy No. 21. The first commandant's office in 1900 was a shack on the waterfront. Later, when the customhouse at the station dock became available, he moved into one of its rooms. In July 1904, the commandant wrote that a commodious office building had been built, "The office building was much wanted, as formerly the public offices were in three of the small rooms of the custom house."

West of No. 20, it too faced the bay and the main road. The two-story, frame structure stands on concrete piles. A two-story, ten-foot wide veranda, originally on all four sides, remains on the front and both sides. The building measures approximately eighty feet square. The corrugated iron roof had two skylights, now gone, that let light into the upstairs hall and adjacent offices. To the rear of the building and separate from it, the Navy built a concrete, one-story vault to hold the Island Government's records in 1925. The vault remains and today it is joined to the main building as is a second-story frame addition on top of it. All the executive offices of the naval station and the Island Government were housed in this handsome building.

<sup>1.</sup> Commander E.B. Underwood, Annual Report, July 7, 1904, File 3931, Box 37, Record Group 80, U.S. Navy Department, General Correspondence, 1897-1915, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

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As with the other frame structures, maintenance was a constant affair. In 1933 the commandant recommended that a new administrative building be built on the same site. The Navy Department, however, settled for a complete overhaul. Workmen made roof replacements and painted it. They replaced rotted posts and stringers. And so the maintenance continued through the years. The building today is American Somoa's courthouse, or Judicial Building.

In 1973 a government official wrote, "It is amazing that the Courthouse, one of the oldest buildings in American Samoa, has withstood the 20th Century in such good shape. It has been through two World Wars, dozens of hurricanes, thousands of inches of tropical torrential downpours, millions of ants and cockroaches, termites and bugs." The flagstaff in front of the building was also erected in 1904.

Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy No. 26. The construction date of this two-story, frame, duplex officers' quarters is unknown. Its low number suggests it was built in the first decade of the twentieth century. Standing on concrete piles, it is located east of and below Government House. A 1934 map shows that verandas extended across the front and part way back on the sides. Two ells had been built on the rear of the building. Corrugated iron covers the roof. In 1934 the station supply officer and the medical officer and their families occupied the quarters. That same year the maintenance records noted repairs to the roof and the exterior being painted. Today the lieutenant governor of American Samoa occupies the residence.

Marine Sergeant's Quarters, Navy No. 30. Located on high ground behind the Fita Fita barracks, this small, modest structure housed the Marine sergeant and his family assigned to the naval station to train the Fita Fita Native Guard. The date of construction of this one-story frame building is unknown. The commandant requested that a Marine sergeant be sent to Tutuila in 1903. The Navy Department approved the request and presumably quarters were erected soon thereafter.

This structure, covered with a corrugated iron roof, measures approximately forty-five by twenty-five feet. As originally constructed it had a covered veranda across the front and part of one side. The veranda on the front has been removed and that on the side has been enclosed and added to the interior. Today the building serves as the office of the motor carrier safety officer.

<sup>2.</sup> Donald F. Graf, "National Register of Historic Places Inventory - Nomination Form, Courthouse of American Samoa," June 12, 1973.

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Fita Fita Barracks, Navy No. 31. In 1902, the Navy built a frame barracks for the Samoan Fita Fita Guard on the station. A hurricane destroyed this building in 1907. Work began on a new barracks promptly and the first floor became available for occupancy in July 1908. The walls are reinforced concrete with twelve large window openings along the front. These windows open out to a concrete-paved veranda that is covered with a concrete roof supported by concrete pillars. The concrete arches between the pillars give the lower floor an appearance of Mission Revival architecture and the veranda's roof provides shade from the tropical sun. This veranda extended along both ends of the building as well. Today the veranda on the east end of the building has been boarded up to become office space. The buildings' measurements are approximately ninety feet by thirty feet. It is located near the southeast corner of the parade ground.

Later in 1908 the frame second story was added. Its covered veranda ran around all four sides. Today the front and both ends have been enclosed. There is still a veranda, without a railing, on the back of the second floor. The hip roof was originally corrugated iron; today cedar shake shingles cover it. An enclosed stairway on the exterior of the east end of the building leads to the second floor. The completed barracks was dedicated in April 1909. The Fita Fita Guard and Band occupied the barracks until the end of the Navy's administration. Today the building serves as the Police Station for Tutuila Island.

Radio Station, Navy No. 38. The naval station's first radio set-up operated from a hill outside the naval station. In 1917, with World War I raging, the Navy Department directed the dismantling of this station and the installation of the apparatus in a new building on the naval station, building 38. The walls of this single story structure marked a new element in Tutuila's architecture. To overcome termites and hurricanes, they were constructed of locally manufactured concrete blocks moulded to imitate rough-cut stone, with concrete lintels and sills. The building measured sixty feet square. Originally a covered veranda extended along all four sides of the building. Today the veranda along the west side and half of the north (rear) side has been boarded in (vertical boarding). The veranda's roof, an extension of the main roof, is supported by large concrete columns, also locally manufactured, six to a side and mounted on a low concrete wall.

The original front of the building faced south looking on to the station's main road. Here the Navy emplaced a concrete low relief lintel reading "U.S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE." The wall below this inscription has been modified and a modern steel and glass door installed to provide security. The east side of the building is now the main entrance. The four window openings

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on this side appear to be original, while a set of double, steel and glass doors has been installed at the center. The roof today is cedar shake shingle. The floor is a reinforced concrete slab.

Two 450-foot steel radio towers were associated with the station. One stood on the east side of the building; the other was located next to the administration building to the west. Both have been dismantled. Today the Amerikan Samoa Bank occupies the structure. This bank was first established in a frame building on the naval station in 1914.

Commissary Store, Navy No. 43, and Garage, Navy No. 24. The Navy Department authorized construction of a new one-story commissary store in 1919. Separated from the radio station by one of the radio towers, it too stood on the north side of the main road. Workmen constructed its walls with the same locally-manufactured concrete blocks moulded to imitate rough-cut stone. In contrast to the radio station, it had a covered veranda only on the front. This roof was supported by four concrete columns on the outside and one at either end on the inside. It was constructed separately from the main roof. The columns stood on low concrete walls and piers. On either side of the double front door are two large window openings. Four more windows are on either side of the building. All these openings are now boarded up. All lintels and sills are reinforced concrete. The building was about forty feet wide and sixty feet long. By 1949 the Navy had converted this building into the Treasurer's Office.

The construction date of the one-story garage behind the commissary store remains unknown. built with the same locally-manufactured concrete block, it may have been constructed about the same time as 38 and 43. Only the east and north walls of the structure may be seen from the outside. The north wall has no openings. The east wall possesses a double door with a simple wooden portico. The garage measured about thirty feet by fifty feet.

After the Interior Department took over the former naval station in 1951, it converted the commissary store into the Pago Pago post office. Then, in 1971, a new post office was constructed. At the same time, the government decided to move the Jean P. Haydon Museum out of its room in Government House and convert both the commissary and the garage into a single structure to house an enlarged museum facility. The east wall added between the commissary and the garage was poured, reinforced concrete. The plans added a reinforced concrete ell to the west side of the garage making the whole structure L-shaped. Cedar shake shingles cover the roof. From the street, the front of the former commissary maintains its integrity and helps preserve the historic scene of this area.

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Bake Shop, Navy No. 45. As early as 1913 the commandant called for the construction of a new bakery, saying that the existing bakery was unsanitary and a disgrace to the station. But not until 1919 did the Navy construct a small, one-story building on the south side of the parade ground and west of Fita barracks. Fita The walls are constructed with the locally-manufactured concrete blocks moulded to imitate rough-cut stone as the Navy used in other construction at the station about that time. The original veranda on the front of the building remains but has been enclosed with screens. Its roof is supported by four concrete columns in front and two in the rear. The roof is an extension of the main roof. In 1931 a hurricane tore off the corrugated iron roof. Today it is cedar shingle. A poured, reinforced concrete addition has been added to the rear of the structure making its dimensions approximately fifty feet deep and forty feet wide. American Samoa's Congressional delegate maintains his district office in the building.

Customhouse, Navy No. 67. The first customhouse, near the station dock, appears to have been a small concrete building that was erected in 1902. In 1913 the chief customs officer at Tutuila requested permission to enlarge the structure, saying that naval funds would not be required because the Island Government would pay the cost. It is not known if his request was approved, but in 1920 the Island Government constructed the present large customhouse along the waterfront southwest of the station dock. As with other buildings of that period, the builder employed locally-manufactured concrete blocks moulded to imitate rough-cut stone in the walls. As originally constructed the one-story structure had verandas on the waterside and on the landside, but not the ends. Today there are no verandas per se, but the corrugated-iron roof overhangs the building on all four sides. Metal poles on concrete piers support this overhang.

Within eight years after construction, the building had settled severely and large vertical and diagonal cracks occurred. The captain of the yard had this damage repaired. Now as then the customs offices are in the northeast end of the building; the remaining space serves as the customs warehouse. Measuring about 150 feet by 80 feet, the building continues in its original function--American Samoa's customhouse.

Samoan Jail, Navy No. 72. The construction date of the Island Government's jail for Samoan prisoners is unknown. It is located south of the parade ground between the Fita Fita barracks, built in 1908, and the bakery, built in 1919. It appears to have been in existence in 1917 when the United States went to war with Germany. At that time the commandant seized two German ships in Pago Pago Harbor and reported that he had placed the enlisted crews in the jail. It is a one-story structure of poured, reinforced concrete,

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similar to the first floor of the Fita Fita barracks. The roof extends over a concrete veranda along the front. This is supported by six handsome concrete columns. Originally corrugated iron, the roof is now cedar shake shingles. The building measures about fifty feet square. Presently it houses the American Samoa Archives and the Territorial Registrar's Office.

Magazine, Navy No. 78. The date of construction of this small, one-story building is unknown. It appears on a 1934 map of the naval station where it is labeled the magazine. (The naval station would have had at least a store of small arms ammunition for the Fita Fita Guard and blank rounds for the salute guns in front of the administrative building.) Located behind the former Samoan jail, No. 72, it measures about forty by thirty feet. Of complicated construction, its walls are primarily concrete and the roof is corrugated iron. As first constructed, verandas ran along the north and west sides. By 1949 these porches had been reduced to a short veranda running along half of the north wall. The rest appears to have been enclosed to enlarge the interior. Today even this veranda has been enclosed with plain concrete blocks and a window.

In the World War II build-up of the naval station, this building was converted into a naval brig for members of the U.S. Navy and white civilians (contractors, employees, etc.). The Police Department now uses it for storage.

Old Rainmaker Hotel, No. 131C; Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy No. 132; and Nurses' Quarters Navy No. 133. With the approach of America's entry into World War II, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila expanded to the southeast by purchasing 33.3 acres of land along the waterfront of Utulei village. When the 7th Defense Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps, arrived on Tutuila later in 1941, it established its camp in this new area. Four sets of quarters were constructed along the water front: nos. 127, 130, 132, and 133. Two of these, 127 and 130, have been removed. The Old Rainmaker Hotel, No. 131C, generally similar in appearance to the two surviving quarters, was later constructed just north of them.

Old Rainmaker Hotel, No. 131C. Constructed about the time the U.S. Department of the Interior assumed jurisdiction over American Samoa, it served as a hotel until the present, large Rainmaker Hotel was constructed on the filled-in reef where Goat Island once stood. It is a one-story, frame, weatherboarded structure, having a corrugated iron roof. It measures about 140 feet by 50 feet. A frame deck runs across the waterside of the building which stands on concrete piles. Two doors open on to the bay and two more are on the land side. Today three government offices occupy the building: Office of Economic Planning and Development, Office of Public Defender, and American Samoa Coastal Zone Management Program.

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<u>Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy No. 132</u>. Constructed around the beginning of World War II, this duplex quarters is a one-story, frame, weatherboarded building standing on concrete piles. It has a corrugated iron roof and measures approximately 120 feet by 40 feet. It has three doors on both the bay side and the land side. The structure is in excellent condition. Today the Governor of American Samoa has his offices in this building pending the completion of a new administration building.

Navy Nurses' Quarters, Navy No. 133. Similar to quarters 132, above, the building today has three short wooden decks on the bay side and four on the land side. Windows have been removed on the waterside and the openings are screened. These openings are protected from inclement weather by canvas on the inside (normally rolled up). Today the building contains the Pago Pago Yacht Club and the government's Budget and Program Planning Office.

Enlisted Men's Club, Navy No. 140. Prior to the World War II buildup, enlisted men assigned to the naval station had a comfortable club in building 73, immediately south of the customhouse. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, the commandant reassigned all buildings, including clubs and residences, in the station to wartime functions. Building 73, while retaining its bowling alleys, became a warehouse. A new club, no. 140, was constructed on the hillside southeast of the Fita Fita Barracks. This frame, weatherboarded building standing on concrete posts and piers, is covered with a roof of corrugated iron. Its dimensions are approximately 120 feet by 30 feet. Numerous windows face toward the bay. Today it serves as three apartments, each with its own entrance porch and stairs.

Parade Ground, no number. Situated south of the main road, the parade ground, or malae, was the ceremonial center of the naval station. Here the Fita Fita Guard and Band trained and performed. Here great feasts and native dances (sivas) were held on special occasions. The five-sided parade was, and is, grass covered. On the southeast, the striking Fita Fita barracks, Samoan jail, and bakery gleam white against the green jungle. Other navy buildings, now gone, marked the southwest and west sides. In navy days a large theater lay beyond the main road to the north. Since then the new, dramatic legislative buildings have replaced the theater. The parade ground's overall dimensions are 210 feet by 500 feet. It continues to function as the commons, the focal point of the capital of American Samoa.

8. Statement of Significance		
Certifying official has considered the significance of this prop		
Applicable National Register Criteria XA B C	D	••
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	□D □E □F □G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions) Government Pacific Islander Military/U.S. Navy	Period of Significance 1900-1951	Significant Dates
	Cultural Affiliation	
Significant Person	Architect/Builder	
	U.S. Navy	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

In 1900 President William McKinley directed the U.S. Navy to administer the newly acquired islands in eastern Samoa. The Navy established a naval station on Tutuila Island and for the next fifty-one years this station served as the capital of American Samoa. The naval governors administered the islands principally by allowing the Samoans to govern themselves with their traditional system of chiefs and village leaders (matai). Annually these leaders met at the naval station with the governor. At this fono the governor and the chiefs discussed the Samoans' concerns and planned for the coming year. The Navy, through the Island Government, took charge of selling copra, removing this from the hands of dishonest traders. Naval doctors and nurses established a hospital and a system of dispensaries, vastly improving the islanders' health. The governors forbade foreigners from purchasing land, keeping Samoa for the Samoans and maintaining the Samoan way of life.

Naval Station Tutuila was the only United States naval establishment south the equator. Its radio station maintained contact with New Zealand, Australia, and British, German, and French possessions in the South Seas. Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Admiral Ernest J. King, Commander in Chief United States Fleet, ordered Admiral Chester W. Nimitz to hold Samoa "at all costs" and to maintain communications between Hawaii and Australia. American Samoa quickly became the largest U.S. Marine Corps establishment overseas and the Marine commanding general, in the role of military governor, maintained his headquarters at the naval station. Following agreements between the United States and New Zealand and the Free French, U.S. Marines assumed the defense of Western Samoa and the Wallis Islands. With their defeat at the Battle of Midway in June 1942, the Japanese gave up their plan to attack Samoa. The Marines, however, maintained their camps and airfields, and Samoa became the training ground for jungle fighting for the coming battles in the South Pacific. In 1951 the U.S. Department of the Interior took over the administration of American Samoa, retaining its headquarters at Today the former station is the capital for the civilian the naval station. government.

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#### Samoa Becomes American

In 1838 Lieutenant Charles Wilkes, U.S. Navy Exploring Expedition, entered Tutuila Island's Pago Pago Harbor, the best natural harbor in the South Pacific, where he undertook the first scientific investigations of the The United States renewed its interest in Samoa in 1872 when Commander Richard Meade, U.S.S. Narragansett, visited Tutuila and reached an agreement with High Chief Mauga to establish a coaling station there. U.S. government, however, failed to follow up. During the 1870s both Germany and Great Britain concluded treaties with the Samoans at Apia on Upolu Island to the west where a German trading company was already well established. In 1878 the United States made a treaty of commerce and friendship and for the coaling station with the chiefs of Tutuila. This time the U.S. Senate ratified the treaty. Rivalry among the three Western powers intensified during the 1880s; by 1889 conditions had worsened to the point where an outbreak of hostilities seemed possible.

The height of the climax came in March when a hurricane hit Apia Harbor sinking the three American and the three German warships anchored there. Only a British ship managed to put to sea. This disaster caused the three governments to find a way to settle their differences. Meeting in Berlin, they agreed that the Samoan Islands were independent and neutral. They also agreed to control the island throughout a unique tripartite system whereby a white council would govern the capital of Apia and act as advisors to the king. On Upolu, however, rival chiefs, Mata'afa and Malietoa, vied for the kingship, leading to civil war and turmoil in 1893-1894. Moreover, the white council proved ineffective and its members squabbled amongst themselves. Civil war broke out again in January 1899, with Germany openly supporting Mata'afa and Britain and the United States backing the deceased Malietoa's son.

British and American ships opened fire on Mata'afa's forces in March. They followed up with a landing party of 140 sailors and Marines. The Samoans ambushed the party and routed it. Between this and other incidents they killed six British and five Americans (four navy men and one Marine). The powers next sent a joint commission to Samoa that abolished the kingship and persuaded both factions to surrender their arms. On December 2, 1899, the three powers signed an accord that gave Tutuila, Aunu'u, and the three Manu'a islands, Ofu, Olosega, and Ta'u, to the United States. Germany acquired the two large islands, Upolu and Savaii, and two small islands. Great Britain abandoned Samoa in favor of colonial interests elsewhere. The U.S. Senate ratified this convention on February 13, 1900.

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#### U.S. Naval Station Tutuila

Sometime soon after the 1878 treaty, the United States leased a parcel of land on the south shore of Pago Pago Harbor from one P.H. Krause for the purpose of erecting coal sheds. In 1889, when the crisis in Samoa reached alarming proportions, the U.S. Congress passed a bill appropriating \$100,000 for the purpose of establishing a coaling station. Following a survey, the Navy purchased the Krause property and five other parcels of land near the village of Pago Pago in 1891-1892. Not until 1898 did the Navy order the construction of a wharf, coal house, and storehouse. Commander Benjamin F. Tilley, U.S.N., commanding U.S.S. Abarenda, arrived at Pago Pago Harbor in August 1899. After unloading a cargo of coal and structural steel, he departed for New Zealand to take on more construction material.

On February 19, 1900, President William McKinley signed executive orders placing the Department of the Navy in control of Tutuila and all Samoan islands east of longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich: Aunu'u, Ofu, Olosega, and Ta'u. All these were established as a naval station known as "Naval Station, Tutuila". The name Samoa was dropped. Tilley became the first commandant of the naval station. His quarters were on the Abarenda, now the station ship. The station's complement consisted of the ship's personnel: commandant, captain of the yard, supply officer, medical officer, pay officer, chief machinist, and a pay clerk. Tilley and his successors were accountable only to the Secretary of the Navy.

Tilley made the decision early on to allow the traditional chiefs to continue the administration of the islands as they always had. The only problem he noticed was too many chiefs. He organized three districts: Eastern and Western on Tutuila, and Manu'a, each under a Samoan high chief. He divided the three districts into fourteen counties, each under a chief. The counties in turn were divided into fifty-two villages, each governed by a village chief, or pulenu'a, and a council of family heads, matai. The village, composed of thirty to forty

<sup>1.</sup> The Krause property was separate from the others and is where the Navy later allowed the Island Government to build the first hospital. The naval station was built in the village of Fagatogo, more than a mile from Pago Pago.

<sup>2.</sup> Much later the comma was dropped. Now there were two "naval stations"-the eastern Samoa islands, and the actual naval station on Pago Pago Harbor, Tutuila. The German islands at this time continued to be known as Samoa or German Samoa. Today, they are known as Western Samoa.

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households, was the basic social and political unit. The commandant established a high court and under it five district courts and many village courts. In 1903 the office of the Secretary of Native Affairs was created, the only civilian in the early navy government.

As time passed, the Navy established additional offices in the Island Government, most, but not all, headed by naval officers. In 1913 four departments were established: Treasury, Customs, Public Health, The Navy added the Public Works Department in 1919. From the beginning the commandant called an annual meeting of the fono, the chiefs, at the naval station. While this meeting of chiefs could not make laws, it could and did advise him on matters of their concern, such as the copra export tax and customs duties--the only sources of funds for the Island Government until Following the war, the fono became bicameral. house, the House of Ali'i, was composed of chiefs of high titles. Samoans, in their traditional fashion, chose delegates to the lower house, the House of Representatives, in open meetings.

In 1900 the Polynesian population of American Samoa amounted to 5,700 people. By 1950, near the end of the Navy's administration, the population had increased to 18,600, an unusual increase in the South Pacific where many native populations declined during this period. A handful of traders lived at Pago Pago, selling Western merchandise to the Samoans and buying copra. One of the first regulations Tilley issued was the "Native Lands Ordinance", which forbade the alienation of land. This has been described as the most important single act of the naval administration in Samoa. It guaranteed that Samoa would be for the Samoans—a dramatic contrast to land issues in Hawaii. Another early regulation removed the traders from the copra industry. For years they had been cheating the Samoans in purchasing the copra. From now on the Island Government sold the copra directly to California processors.

In April 1900 the chiefs of Tutuila made a formal cession of their island to the United States. The chiefs of Manu'a, however, insisted they were independent of Tutuila and were not inclined to cede their islands. Not until 1904 did they change their minds. The U.S. Congress did not act upon these cessions until 1925 but the President accepted them. Considerable time passed and much prodding occurred before President Theodore Roosevelt sent watches and other gifts to the Samoans in thanks for the cessions.

Carpenters completed a large, impressive residence for the commandant in 1903. Situated on a ridge overlooking the station, Government House was a diplomatic outpost of the United States. The imperial governor of German Samoa became a frequent visitor. Other distinguished visitors over the years

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included the premier of Queensland, Australia; an Italian duke; the governor-general of New Zealand; the German consul-general to Australia; a U.S. congressional committee; and the officers on warships from various nations. National salutes were fired on arrival. A reception, followed by dinner, took place in Government House. (The dining room seated up to twenty-four.) Following dinner, the band from the station ship presented a concert.

In 1904 the commandant requested the Navy Department to change his title to governor. This would put him on a par with the governors of the various colonies in the South Pacific. Also, it was important in the eyes of the Samoans who were intensely aware of rank and privilege. They noted, for example, that the German governor received more rounds from the Salute guns than a new commandant did on arrival at Tutuila. Early in 1905 President Theodore Roosevelt signed a commission appointing the commandant the "Governor of Tutuila". This caused a new problem. Again the people of the Manu'a Islands protested they were not a part of Tutuila. This issue smoldered until 1912 when President William H. Taft signed a commission for the Governor of "America Samoa". While Government House fulfilled the niceties of diplomatic protocol, the every day work schedule was carried out in the administration building at the opposite end of the station. As the years passed, the governor's staff steadily increased. The year 1931 brought an important change when the office of the secretary of native affairs (who was also the judge) was abolished and a naval officer was appointed attorney general. A separate judicial branch came into being under a chief justice, an American civilian. The governor listed his staff that same year: ten officers, four navy nurses, seventy-two enlisted men, and one Marine first sergeant. Among the enlisted men, twelve radio operators served at the main radio station and on the small islands. Twenty-three hospital corpsmen provided medical services at the Pago Pago hospital and at the dispensaries scattered among the villages.

In 1900 Commandant Tilley requested permission to enlist Samoans as landsmen in the U.S. Navy. The Navy Department authorized the enlistment of fifty-eight men for four years. Thus the Fita Fita Guard and Band came into being. Most of the men reenlisted, making the Navy their careers. Their uniforms consisted of shirts, lavalavas, headgear, and, at first, bare feet. By World War II the Fita Fita Guard counted 100 men in its ranks. Samoans regarded the Guard as the elite of their society, and the men served with pride and dignity. They learned the use of firearms, conducted bayonet practice, guard duties, and parade ground drills. At the dedication of their new concrete-and-frame barracks in 1909, the guards themselves arranged the affair. The ceremony was followed by one of the largest feasts ever given in Samoa. Guests consumed over 25,000 articles of food. The affair ended with

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native dances (sivas). In 1924 the Navy's judge advocate general ruled that a Fita Fita was entitled to retirement after thirty years of service. The Samoans served as seamen aboard the station ship, guard duty, radiomen, crews for small boats, and orderly and messenger service. The band held concerts four times a week on the parade ground. When the Navy left American Samoa in 1951, most of the Fita Fitas transferred to Hawaii.

World War I affected American Samoa in minor ways. When New Zealand seized German Samoa in 1914, two German ships, <u>Elsass</u> and <u>Solf</u>, took refuge in Pago Pago Harbor's neutral waters. When the United States entered the war in 1917, the governor seized the two ships and imprisoned the crews. Later the crews and the <u>Elsass</u>, 15,000 tons, were taken to Hawaii. The smaller <u>Solf</u>, renamed <u>Samoa</u>, remained at Pago Pago where the government sold it after the war. Tutuila's defenses were negligible; a 3-pounder gun and a 3-inch field piece guarded the harbor. Radio communications were greatly improved with the installation of more powerful equipment in a permanent building.

World War II had a dramatic impact on Tutuila. In 1939 the Navy allotted \$1,100,000 for the development of a patrol plane base. A year later steps were taken to acquire land adjacent to the station, in Utulei village, for Marine barracks. The 7th Defense Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps, arrived at the station in March 1941. Almost immediately they began the work of emplacing two batteries of 6-inch coastal guns, and six 3-inch antiaircraft guns for the protection of Pago Pago Harbor. That summer the 1st Samoan Battalion, Marine Corps Reserve, organized.

Following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor the Navy was directed to hold American Samoa at all costs because of its vital location on the supply route from the United States and Hawaii to Australia and New Zealand. Dependents and civilians were evacuated. Samoans came into the station armed with bush knives volunteering their services. In January 1942 the Second Marine Brigade organized in the San Diego area and departed for American Samoa. That same month a Japanese submarine shelled the naval station causing light damage and wounding two men. (A Japanese submarine had been sighted off Pago Pago before Pearl Harbor, on December 4.)

While the naval commander remained "governor", the Marine commanding general became the "military governor". Both maintained their headquarters at the station. Following negotiations with New Zealand and the Free French, U.S. Marines became responsible for the defense of British (Western) Samoa and the Wallis Islands. Additional Marine units and U.S. Navy Construction Battalions (Seabees) arrived. By August 1942, 15,000 Marines stood guard. A destroyer repair base and an airfield were constructed. Marine fighters and

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scout-bombers occupied the field. The Navy's amphibious planes operated from Pago Pago Harbor. The Marines also installed a squadron of barrage ballons. At its maximum development Tutuila Island had four military establishments: Naval Ship Repair Unit, Tutuila; Naval Air Facilities, Tutuila; Marine Barracks, Naval Station, Samoa; and Naval Station Supply Depot.

With the decisive defeat of the Japanese at the Battle of Midway in June 1942, the danger of a direct attack on Samoa lessened considerably. Tutuila now became a huge advanced combat training camp and a staging area for the amphibious offensives in the Solomons. Men wounded in those battles returned to a field hospital on Tutuila.

The war having moved into the western Pacific, the military governorship was abolished in March 1944. The naval governor resumed full duties and as commandant he took command of the Samoa Defense Group (Samoan, Wallis, Ellice, Society, and Cook islands). The station, in addition to being the seat of government, carried out emergency seaplane operations, weather reporting, and radio communications.

In the 1920s a group of Samoans demanded an end to the naval rule and the installation of a civilian government. A congressional committee visited Pago Pago in 1930 and investigated the Navy's administration. The U.S. Congress, however, took no further action on the matter and opposition to the Navy gradually declined. Postwar Samoa was vastly different than the tropical isles the Navy took over in 1900. In nine days of ceremonies in February and March 1951, the administration of American Samoa passed from the U.S. Navy to the U.S. Department of the Interior. Captain T.F. Darden, U.S.N., watched the lowering of his flag; the Honorable Phelps Phelps took the oath of office as governor. Not all was changed. The former U.S. Naval Station Tutuila is still the site of the capital of American Samoa.

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Graf, Donald F. "Courthouse of American Places, June 12, 1973.	Samoa," National Register of Historic
	∑ See continuation sheet
Previous documentation on file (NPS):  preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67)	Primary location of additional data:
has been requested	X State historic preservation office
previously listed in the National Register	Other State agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	X Federal agency
designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings	Local government University
Survey #	Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering	Specify repository:
Record #	American Samoa Government
10. Coographical Data	National Archives, Washington, D.C.
10. Geographical Data  Acreage of property11.5 acres	National Archives, San Francisco Branch Washington Navy Yard, D.C.
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UTM References	
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Verbal Boundary Description	
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Beginning at a point where the no Government House meets the main road,	
Boundary Justification	
Area I. This boundary encompasses	Government House, its small lawn,
the driveway, the flight of stairs leading	
surrounding the house. It also encompassits lawn. (Thick vegetation covers the	ne steep hillside between the two
structures. Government House is at an e	
near sea level.)	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Erwin N. Thompson, Historian	
organization Self	date <u>October 15, 1988</u>
street & number 376 Gladiola St.	telephone (303) 277-0409
city or town Golden	state <u>Colorado</u> zip code <u>80401</u>

9. Major Bibliographical References

Section	number	9	Page	2
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main road in an eastern direction then bending south to a point ten feet beyond the south side of Duplex Officers' Quarters 26, then turning westerly on a line ten feet from and parallel to the south side of the Quarters and heading for the guest fale behind government house and curving so as to include the guest fale within the boundary, then turning northwest to the south side of the said driveway, then following the south side of the driveway in a westerly direction to where the driveway meets the main road, then in a straight line across the mouth of the driveway to the point of beginning.

Area II. Encompassing the Radio Station, 38; Commissary, 43; Garage, 24; and Customhouse, 67.

Beginning at a point at the southwest corner of the Radio Station where the corner of the veranda meets the sidewalk, then in a northeast direction following the inside edge of the sidewalk to a point five feet beyond the southeast corner of the Commissary, then turning in a northerly direction five feet from and paralleling the east side of the Commissary-Garage in a straight line to a point five feet from the southeast corner of the Customhouse, then in a straight line five feet from and paralleling the east side of the Customhouse to a point five feet beyond the northeast corner of the Customhouse, then in a straight line northwesterly five feet from and parallel to the north side of the Customhouse to the outer edge of a seawall, then in a straight line southwest along the outer edge of the seawall to its end and continuing on that straight line to a point opposite the northwest corner of the museum's ell, then in a straight line southeast five feet from and paralleling the west wall of the museum ell to a point five feet short of the southwest corner of the ell, then in a straight line southwesterly paralleling the northwest side of the Radio Station and five feet from it to a point five feet beyond the northwest corner of the Radio Station, then in a straight line southeasterly five feet from and parallel to the southwest side of the Radio Station to the point of beginning.

Area III. Encompasses the Administrative Building, 21; Duplex Officers' Quarters, 20; Parade Ground; Fita Fita Barracks, 31; Samoan Jail, 72; Bakery, 45; Magazine, 78; and Enlisted Men's Club, 140.

Beginning at a point five feet northwest of the northwest corner of the Administrative Building on the inside edge of the concrete sidewalk in front of the building, then in a straight line southeasterly along the inside edge of the sidewalk past the Administration Building, the Duplex Officers' Quarters, an open space, and across a paved road running into the main road from the southwest to the edge of the Parade Ground, then in a line easterly and southerly along the edge of the Parade Ground to its southwest corner, then continuing that line across a road in front of the Fita Fita Barracks to its far

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Section number <u>10</u> Page <u>3 (description)</u>

(southern) side, then in a straight line in a northeasterly direction along the edge of a road and paralleling the Barracks to a point five feet beyond the northeast corner of the Barracks, then a straight line southeasterly five feet from and parallel to the northeast end of the Barracks to a point five feet beyond the southeast corner of the Barracks, then in a straight line easterly to a concrete sidewalk and across the sidewalk to its northeasterly side, then a line southeasterly along that sidewalk and up three short flights of steps to a point five feet short of the Enlisted Men's Club, then a straight line northeasterly five feet from and parallel to the northwest side of the Club to a point five feet beyond the Club, then in a straight line southeasterly five feet from and parallel to the northeast end of the Club to a point five feet beyond the Club, then in a straight line southwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southeast side of the Club to a point five feet beyond the southeast corner of the Club, then in a straight line northwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southwest end of the Club to a point five feet beyond the southwest corner of the Club, then in a straight line northeasterly five feet from and parallel to the northwest side of the Club to the south edge of the highest of the three flights of steps, then northwesterly along the southwestern edge of the stairs and sidewalk to the point where the line first crossed the sidewalk, then a straight line to a point five feet short of the southeast corner of the Barracks, then in a straight line southwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southeast sides of the Barracks and the Samoan Jail to a point five feet from the northeast corner of the Magazine, then in a straight line southeasterly five feet from and parallel to the northeast side of the Magazine to a point five feet beyond the southeast corner of the Magazine, then in a straight southwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southeast side of the Magazine to a point five feet beyond the southwest corner of the Magazine, then in a straight line northwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southwest side of the Magazine to a point five feet from the northwest corner of the Magazine, then making a ninety-degree angle, a straight line southwesterly paralleling the southeast side of the Bakery to a point five feet beyond the southwest corner of the Bakery, then in a straight line northwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southwest side of the Bakery across a road to the edge of the Parade Ground, then a curving line west and northwest along the edge of the Parade Ground to an intersection of an imaginary straight line five feet from and parallel to the southwest side of the concrete vault in the rear of the Administrative Building, then a straight line northwesterly five feet from and parallel to the southwest side of the vault (the former imaginary line) to a point five feet beyond the southwest corner of the Administrative Building, then a straight line northeasterly five feet and parallel to the northwest side of the Administrative Building to the point of beginning.

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Area IV. Encompasses the Old Rainmaker Hotel, 131C; Duplex Officers' Quarters, 132; and Quarters for Navy Nurses, 133.

Beginning at a point that marks the southeast corner of the filled-in area on which these structures stand, a straight line southwesterly ten feet from and parallel to the southeast end of the Nurses' Quarters to the east side of the main road, then a slightly curved line northward along the eastern side of the main road to a point ten feet beyond the northern end of the Old Rainmaker Hotel, then a straight line northeasterly ten feet from and parallel to the north end of the Old Hotel, to the end of the lawn, then a slightly curved line southeasterly between the lawn and the beach along Pago Pago Harbor to the point of beginning.

Flagstaff. A circle centered on the flagstaff and having a radius of ten feet.

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Area II. The boundary encompasses four concrete-block structures: Radio Station, Commissary, Garage, and Customhouse. (The Commissary and Garage have been united to house museum facilities.) The open space between the Radio Station and the Commissary once was the site of a steel communication tower. Today it is a parking lot. It is included within the boundaries because it remains an open area as it was historically, i.e., part of the historic scene.

Area III. The boundary encompasses seven historic structures and the historic Parade Ground. This area was and still is the heart of American Samoa's capital. It includes an open space east of Duplex Officers' Quarters 20, where two single Officers' Quarters, 65 and 66, once stood. For the most part, the boundary is either on the edge of the historic properties or no more than five feet from them.

Area IV. The boundary encompasses three historic structures that memorialized the World War II and later U.S. Navy period concerning the administration of American Samoa. The large area of grassy lawns here on the harbor front marks Tutuila's past when the naval station and the villages enjoyed the openness and tropical beauty of Pago Pago Harbor, a view that is difficult to find today within the former boundaries of U.S. Naval Station Tutuila.

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#### Photographs, U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, American Samoa

Except where otherwise noted the photographs were taken by Erwin N. Thompson in June 1988. The original negatives of these are in the custody of the Historic Preservation officer, American Samoa Government.

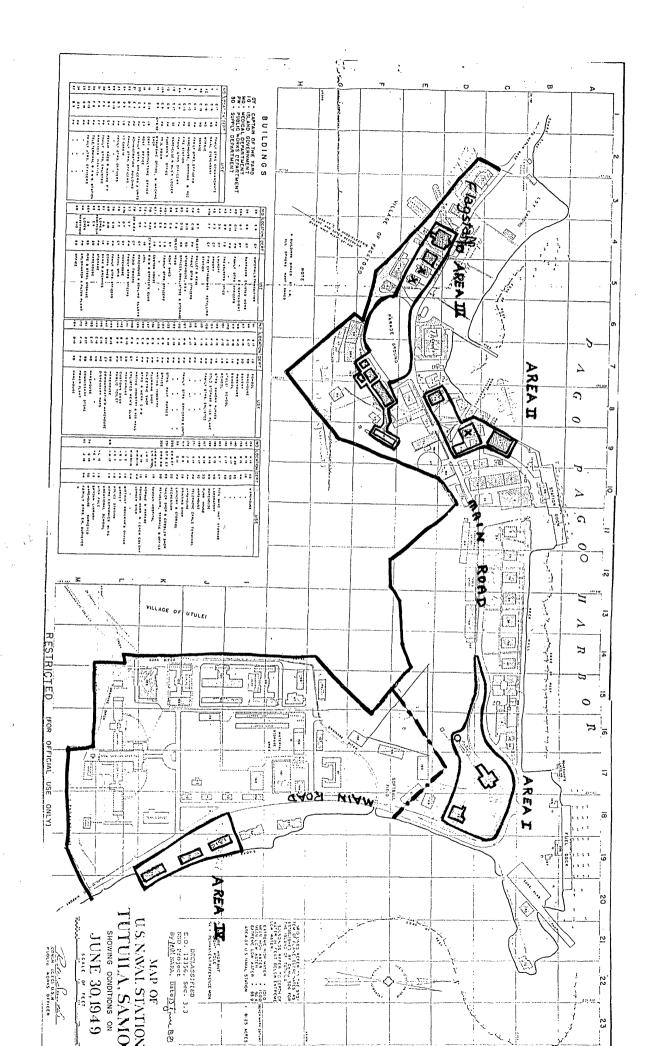
- 1. Aerial view of U.S. Naval Station Tutuila, 1938. Since World War II great changes have taken place. The parade ground, however, on the right of the photograph remains intact. Photographer unknown. Original negative, 80-G-411104, is in the National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 2. Aerial of the station showing Government House, Navy no. 1, on the ridge, 1925. An officers' club stood on Goat Island just beyond. The governor's landing is on the left. Officers' quarters and storehouses appear in lower left. The reef is now filled in and a large hotel now buries Goat Island. Of all the structures in the photo, only Government House survives. Photograph unknown. Original negative, 80-G-63290, is at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 3. Rear view of Government House, Navy no. 1, showing part of the carport and a storage shed. Clear views of the residence are difficult to obtain due to the thick tropical vegetation surrounding it.
- 4. East half of the front and part of the east side of Government House, Navy no. 1.
  - 5. Western portion of the front of Government House, Navy no. 1.
- 6. Looking south at the ceremonial guest fale in the rear of Government House. Originally a small fish pond sat in the center of the lawn.
- 7. Front of the Administration Building, Navy no. 21. Today the structure houses the American Samoa courtrooms and is known as the Judicial Building. Photographer unknown. Original negative, 80-G-182160, is at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.
- 8. Front (north) and west side of the Administrative Building, Navy no. 21. It faces the main road on Tutuila Island. Next to it is Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy no. 20 (photo 19, below).
- 9. Looking south across the parade ground. From left to right: Fita Barracks, Navy no. 31; Samoa Jail, Navy no. 72; and Bakery, Navy no. 45. The Fita Guard, shown here on parade, transferred to Hawaii when the U.S. Navy left American Samoa.

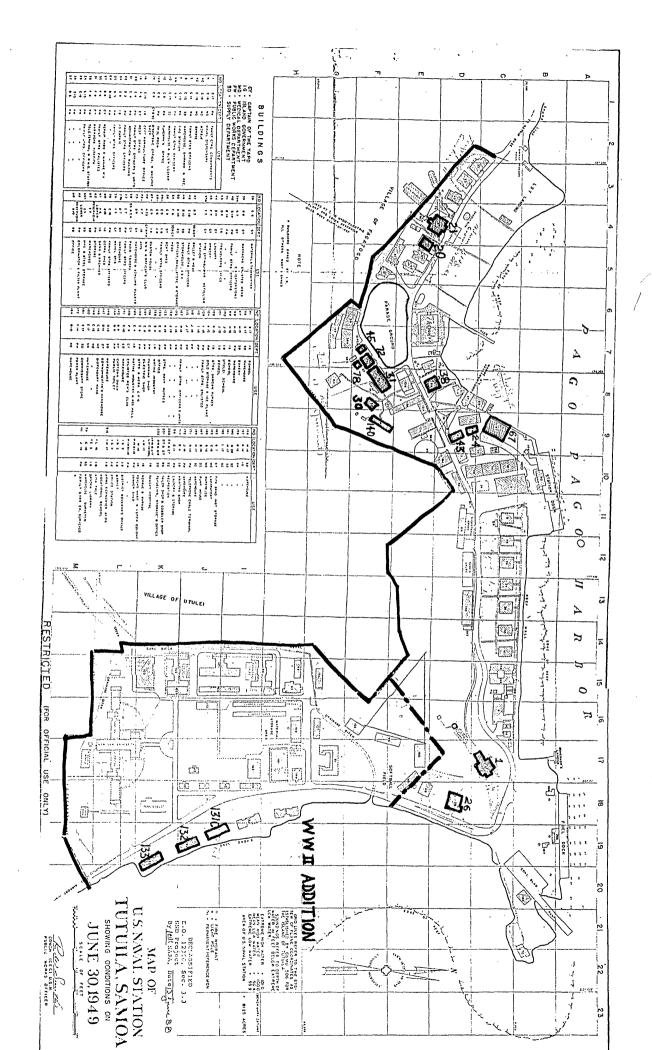
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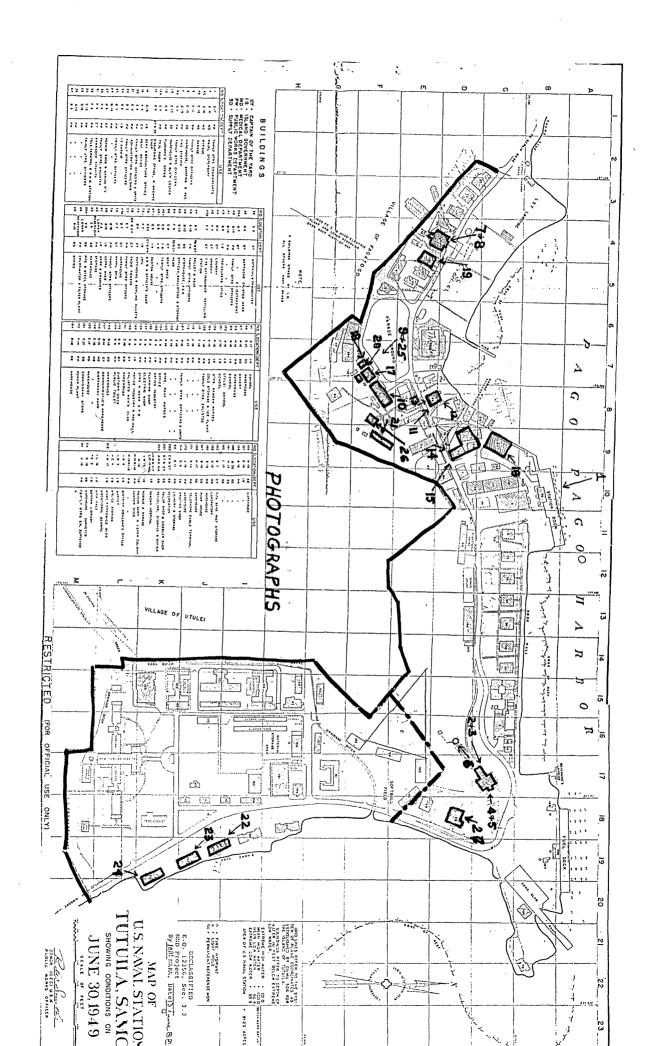
- 10. Fita Fita Barracks, Navy no. 31. The two-story veranda on the east end has been boarded in and an exterior stairway added. The upper-story veranda along the front has also been boarded up. Roof is now wooden shingle.
- 11. Looking at the east side of the Radio Station, Navy no. 38, now the front of the building which houses the Amerika Samoa Bank. The door and windows have been modernized.
- 12. Another view of the east side of the Radio Station, Navy no. 38, showing the shingled roof which was once corrugated iron.
- 13. The south side of the Radio Station, Navy no. 38, originally the front of the building. The Navy's doorway has been filled in and a modern door installed for the bank's staff.
- 14. Commissary, Navy no. 43. It too is on the north side of the main road. Although the building has been incorporated with a larger structure, this front end maintains its integrity with the exception of the windows being boarded up for museum purposes.
- 15. A view of the south (front) and east side of the Commissary, Navy no. 43, and the Navy's Garage, no. 24. The two concrete-block structures have been joined by a stretch of poured-concrete wall.
- 16. Customhouse, Navy no. 67. The offices of this concrete-block structure are in the near (north) end. The area around the building has been converted into a container yard.
- 17. Samoan Jail, Navy no. 72. This concrete building stands next to the Fita Fita Barracks, facing the parade ground. It houses the American Samoa Archives and the Territorial Register.
- 18. Bakery, Navy no. 72. Built of concrete blocks, this building has had its veranda closed in. It stands on the south side of the parade ground, west of the Samoan Jail. It presently houses the district office of U.S. Congressman Folo I.F. Sunai.
- 19. Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy no. 20, is east of the Administrative Building, on the south side of the main road. Its two-story veranda has been boarded up. The Department of Legal Affairs has its offices in the building.

Section number	Page

- 20. Magazine/Navy Brig., no. 78. It is directly behind (south of) the Samoan Jail (no. 72). Its veranda has been filled in with concrete block.
- 21. The Enlisted Men's Club, Navy no. 140, was built during World War II on the hillside southeast of the Fita Fita Barracks. Today it is an apartment house.
- 22. Old Rainmaker Hotel, no. 131C, stands on the waterfront in the World War II addition to the naval station, formerly Utulei village. It now contains offices of the American Samoa Government.
- 23. Duplex Officers' Quarters, Navy no. 132, is located south of the Old Hotel, between the main road and Pago Pago Bay. The Governor of American Samoa maintains his offices in this building.
- 24. Navy Nurses' Quarters, Navy no. 133, stands south of no. 132 and houses the Pago Pago Yacht Club.
- 25. Parade Ground, or Malae, in the center of the original station, remains the focal point of American Samoa's capital.
- 26. Marine sergeant's quarters. Today, the office of the motor carrier safety officer. Navy no. 30. Photo by Stan Sorensen, American Samoa.
- 27. Duplex officers' quarters. Navy no. 26. Today, the residence of the lieutenant governor. Photo by Stan Sorensen.







	SUPPLEMENTARY LIS	STING RECORD	)	
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